

H.R. 224

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. VANESSA GUILLÉN POST OFFICE BUILDING.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 5302 Galveston Road in Houston, Texas, shall be known and designated as the “Vanessa Guillén Post Office Building”.

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the “Vanessa Guillén Post Office Building”.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. GARCIA), the sponsor of this bill.

Ms. GARCIA of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I thank the chairwoman for bringing this bill forward, a bill that is literally very important, not just to the Guillen family but to so many constituents in my district.

I also recognize that we are in the midst of celebrating the 1-year anniversary of Vanessa Guillen's death.

Vanessa was one of my constituents before she was transferred to Fort Hood military base for her Army training. She was a rising star before her life was tragically cut short.

As Members of Congress, we have the moral obligation to honor Vanessa's memory and enact change that will end violence in our military installations.

Her story has captivated Americans of all backgrounds. It brought much-needed attention to sexual assault in the military, and it has led to changes being implemented at Fort Hood and at military bases throughout the Nation and, in fact, the world.

I will not rest until there is justice for Vanessa Guillen and her family. There is still much work that will need to be done. But the naming of a post office in her memory this year of her first anniversary would be but a small gesture on the part of this Congress in naming a post office after her to memorialize her work and her legacy.

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Houston native and Army Specialist Vanessa Guillen was stationed at Fort Hood, Texas. In April

2020, she was reported missing from her unit.

Tragically, her body was found 2 months later along the Leon River near Fort Hood. It is believed Specialist Guillen was killed by a fellow soldier at Fort Hood who had been harassing her and stalking her.

Specialist Guillen's death spurred a national policy conversation about the way in which sexual harassment claims have been handled by the military.

I strongly support this postal-naming bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentlewoman from Texas (Ms. JACKSON LEE).

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute this naming of a Houston post office after Vanessa Guillen and to congratulate my colleague, Congresswoman SYLVIA GARCIA, whose constituent Vanessa was, for her leadership in recognizing the importance of the life and legacy of Vanessa Guillen. She was a hero in life and a hero in death.

As the story is told, all of her life she wanted to be in the United States Army, and she was an impeccable member of the United States military. Her tragic story is not one that she deserved, the violent death, the sexual assault, the lack of oversight, the lack of knowledge and investigation and process that would have really saved her life.

She did her duty. She made those in positions of power aware of the journey and the trials and tribulations that she was facing. Yet, her life was lost but not her legacy, not her story, and not the response that has come about through the United States Congress. And that will continue.

As I heard my colleague say, she will not rest until Vanessa Guillen gets justice. This is one step of honor for all little girls to know what a brave and wonderful young woman she was and to be able to say to her family that we will never forget her story.

I honor her tonight; I honor her legacy; I honor her bravery; and I honor her story.

What are we to say to the young girls who seek to be part of the United States military and to fight and stand for their country? Yes, they can model their lives after the service given by Vanessa Guillen.

I thank her, brave that she was and, yes, a servant of the people of the United States. I thank her, and I salute her.

Congratulations for this post office to her family and her community and to Congresswoman SYLVIA GARCIA.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, in the interest of time, I wish to be associated with the words of my colleagues in honor of Vanessa Guillen. I thank my colleague, SYLVIA GARCIA, for putting this important legislation forward.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 224, to designate the facility of the United

States Postal Service located at 5302 Galveston Road in Houston, Texas, as the “Vanessa Guillén Post Office Building.”

Ms. Vanessa Guillén was born to the parents of immigrants and grew up in Houston, Texas. In high school, she was a stand-out athlete and graduated in the top 15 percent of her class.

At a young age, Ms. Guillén knew that she wanted to serve her country in the United States Army. In June 2018, she joined the Army and trained as a 91F, Small Arms and Artillery Repairer. Tragically at the age of 20, Private First Class Guillén was killed while serving at Fort Hood leaving a hole in the hearts of her family and the community. Private First Class Guillén was posthumously promoted to the rank of Specialist on July 1, 2020.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of this young woman by naming the Post Office at 5302 Galveston Road in Houston, Texas, as the “Vanessa Guillén Post Office Building.”

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 224.

Mr. Speaker, if there are no further speakers, I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for giving a voice to thousands of women who don't have one with this postal-naming bill tonight. I support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 224, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 224.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

□ 2220

**LAWRENCE M. ‘LARRY’ WALSH SR.
POST OFFICE**

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 700) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 303 East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, as the “Lawrence M. ‘Larry’ Walsh Sr. Post Office”.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 700

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

**SECTION 1. LAWRENCE M. ‘LARRY’ WALSH SR.
POST OFFICE.**

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 303

East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, shall be known and designated as the "Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Sr. Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Sr. Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. FOSTER), the sponsor of this bill.

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to vote in favor of my legislation, H.R. 700, to name the Elwood, Illinois, post office after Larry Walsh, Sr., a public servant and a dedicated member of the Will County community.

Mr. Walsh was raised in Joliet and was a graduate of Joliet Junior College and a lifelong resident of Elwood, Illinois. Larry loved the State of Illinois and devoted his life to making it a better place.

He first began his career in public service as a member of the Elwood School Board and continued to serve his community as an elected Jackson Township supervisor, a member of the Will County Board, and an Illinois State Senator representing the 43rd District, a time during which he was widely reputed to have spent a certain amount of time playing poker with his colleague, then State Senator Barack Obama.

Larry finished his career in public service as the Will County executive, a position he held from 2004 until his passing in 2020.

Larry was a family man and a devoted farmer, a voice for disability issues, senior citizens services, and agricultural workers.

He championed the largest infrastructure improvement investment in Will County's history, alongside modernizing his county's public safety resources. Simply put, Will County is a better place today because of the decades of work that Larry devoted to it.

The Lawrence M. "Larry" Walsh Sr. Post Office will be a justifiable source of pride and a fitting tribute to a man who dedicated his life to local government and his community.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote in favor of this legislation, one of

the collegial and noble things that Congress can do for a collegial and noble man.

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, Lawrence Walsh was born and raised in Joliet, Illinois, where he later served as an Illinois State Senator from 1997 to 2005. He also served his local community as the Will County executive, an office he held from 2004 until his death in 2020.

Mr. Speaker, I support this postal-naming bill honoring an Illinois community public servant, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, in the interests of time, I submit my statement in support of Mr. FOSTER's very important bill. I strongly support it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 700, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 303 East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, as the "Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Sr. Post Office."

Mr. Larry Walsh Sr. was an American farmer, public servant, and dedicated member of the Will County community. In 1970, he began his career in public service as a member of the Elwood School Board. He was then elected as Jackson Township Supervisor in 1973, where he served until December 2004. Mr. Walsh also served on the Will County Board in 1974 and 1992.

From April 1997 until January 2005, Mr. Walsh was an Illinois State Senator, representing the 43rd District. As a public servant, his mission was always to better the lives of people who lived and worked in his community.

He brought a voice to disability issues, senior citizens' services, preservation, and agricultural concerns.

I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating Mr. Walsh's dedication to public service by naming the Post Office at 303 East Mississippi Avenue in Elwood, Illinois, as the "Lawrence M. 'Larry' Walsh Post Office."

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers and I am prepared to close, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. MACE. Mr. Speaker, I support this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I urge passage of H.R. 700, an important bill. I thank Mr. FOSTER for authoring it, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 700.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. CLYDE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 3(s) of House Resolution 8, the yeas and nays are ordered.

Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion are postponed.

MARINE CORPS RESERVE PVT JACOB CRUZ POST OFFICE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 5900) to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2016 East 1st Street in Los Angeles, California, as the "Marine Corps Reserve PVT Jacob Cruz Post Office".

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 5900

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. MARINE CORPS RESERVE PVT JACOB CRUZ POST OFFICE.

(a) DESIGNATION.—The facility of the United States Postal Service located at 2016 East 1st Street in Los Angeles, California, shall be known and designated as the "Marine Corps Reserve PVT Jacob Cruz Post Office".

(b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in a law, map, regulation, document, paper, or other record of the United States to the facility referred to in subsection (a) shall be deemed to be a reference to the "Marine Corps Reserve PVT Jacob Cruz Post Office".

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY) and the gentlewoman from South Carolina (Ms. MACE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on this measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 5900, to designate the facility of the U.S. Postal Service located at 2016 East 1st Street in Los Angeles, California, as the Marine Corps Reserve PVT Jacob Cruz Post Office.

Private Jacob Cruz grew up in Boyle Heights and was the second born of five children. At the age of 17, Private Cruz enlisted in the Marine Corps.

As part of the 2nd Marine Division, his mission was to secure the island of Betio in order to control the Japanese airstrip in the Tarawa Atoll. Tragically, during the battle of Tarawa, Private Cruz was killed. Private Cruz was declared unrecoverable for 77 years before his remains were identified and returned home to his family in Los Angeles.

On March 25, 2021, he was then laid to rest with full military honors. He was the recipient of numerous awards and citations, including the Silver Star, Purple Heart, Combat Action Ribbon, World War II Victory Medal, American Campaign Medal, Marine Corps Presidential Unit Citation, Asiatic-Pacific